

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Luis Alejandro, Chief, Water Management Section (USACE)

**FROM:** John Mitnik, Director, Operations, Engineering & Construction Division (SFWMD)  
Akin Owosina, Chief, Hydraulics & Hydrology Bureau (SFWMD)

**DATE:** June 23, 2016

**SUBJECT:** Operational Position Statement for June 21, 2016 to June 27, 2016

This Position Statement is for the one-week period from June 21, 2016 to June 27, 2016. On June 20 the Lake Okeechobee stage was 14.89 feet, NGVD, in the upper third of the Low Sub-band, and within one foot of the Intermediate Sub-band of the 2008 LORS. During last week the lake stage experienced an increase of 0.21 feet.

District rainfall for June up to date is above average. Rainfall for the coming two weeks is expected to be below average.

Precipitation Outlook: The most recent Climate Prediction Center (CPC) outlook for Central and South Florida indicates a slight increased chance of above-normal rainfall for July 2016. The CPC rainfall outlooks into the 2016 wet season for the 3-month windows July to September and August to October show slightly increased chances of above-normal rainfall (35%) for the entire District area. The long-range CPC outlook for the 2016-17 dry season is for increased chances of below-normal rainfall.

2008 LORS Release Guidance (Part C): With the Lake Okeechobee stage within the Low Sub-band, Part C of the 2008 LORS release guidance recommends "Up to Maximum Practicable to the WCAs if desirable or with minimum Everglades Impacts. Otherwise no releases to the WCAs".

Over the 7-day period from June 13, 2016 to June 19, 2016, there were practically no releases from Lake Okeechobee to the STAs. The A-1 FEB collected runoff from the EAA and discharged around 12,200 ac-ft to STA-2 and STA-3/4. Releases from the lake to tide via C-10A, L-8 and C-51 amounted to 4,300 ac-ft.

Due to water levels in all the WCAs above the corresponding regulation schedules the USACE is requesting the District not to implement Lake regulatory releases to the WCAs for the current period.

2008 LORS Release Guidance (Part D): With the Lake Okeechobee stage in the Low Sub-band, less than one foot from the Intermediate Sub-band, Part D of the 2008 LORS release guidance recommends "S-77 up to 4,000 cfs and S-80 up to 1,800 cfs". The District recommends following LORS 2008 and therefore maintaining current release rates at S-77 and S-80.

Salinities at the US 1 Bridge location in the St. Lucie Estuary remained in the poor range during the past week. In the Caloosahatchee Estuary, salinities at Sanibel remained in the good range for adult oysters, salinities at Shell Point fell into the fair range, and salinities at Cape Coral remained in the poor range during the past week.